

O Precious Blood !
 Redeeming flood
 From Jesus' sacred Hands ;
 Upon us come ! We cry to thee !
 From satan's bondage set us free.

O Precious Blood !
 Redeeming flood
 From Jesus' sacred Side ;
 Come sign us as the Saviour's own
 And claim us at His Father's throne.

THE FEAST OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD.

Close on the commemoration of the Five Wounds follows the Feast of the Most Precious Blood. This year they are separated by two days only --the former falling on the twenty third, the latter on the twenty sixth of this month. A few days earlier the church venerates the memory of the centurion who pierced our Saviour's side with a spear. The intimate relation which each of these feasts bears to the other will be seen at a glance. When we concentrate our thoughts on the Wounds which, for love of us, Our Lord Jesus Christ bore in His body, our minds cannot but be fixed on the adorable Stream which flowed from them ; they were in effect inflicted to serve as outlets for the Blood which was to be our redemption. And again, when meditating on Our Lord's surpassing love as shown by His Wounds and by the effusion of His Blood, we unconsciously recall the centurion's action and all the circumstances of the infliction of that special wound whence issued the last Drops of Blood which still lingered in the inanimate body.

The redemption of the human race had been accomplished, but " the Heart that loved men so much " would still give a proof of undying tenderness. Each portion of Our Lord's sacred body had suffered its own torment. His august head had borne the painful and ignominious crown of thorns, his hands and feet were pierced through with large nails and his whole person was lacerated from